

Meeting Discussion Guide >>>

December 6, 2013

Alaska Health Care Commission

- I. Public Comment Review & 2013 Report Finalization and Approval
- II. 2014 Plans
 - I. Prioritize Study Agenda
 - II. Discuss Coordination with State Agencies on Statewide Health Plan
 - III. Discuss Coordination with Alaska Medicaid Reform Advisory Group
- III. Affordable Care Act Update
- IV. Next Steps/Wrap-Up

Plans for Today

Public Comment Review & 2013 Report Revision/Approval

1. Evidence-based Medicine Findings & Recommendations
2. Employer Engagement/ Support Findings & Recommendations
3. Transparency/Health Information Infrastructure Findings & Recommendations
4. 2014 Agenda; Other Comments

- a) Changes Based on Public Comment?
- b) Additional Changes Suggested by Commission Members?
- c) Approve

Discussion Plan

- » Evidence-Based Medicine
- » Employer Engagement & Support
- » Transparency/Health Information Infrastructure
- » 2014 Agenda
- » Other Comments

Comments Received > ⁵

» Evidence-Based Medicine

- > (pg. 4) Alaska Nurses Association:
 - + Supports evidence-based medical – but is concerned:
 - Extrapolation of studies to Alaska’s population
 - Prior authorization (PA) is time consuming, costly and complicated
 - + Would like to be involved in developing learning opportunities.
 - + Nurses and patients should be involved in developing compliance strategies

- > (pg. 5) Alaska Pharmacists Association:
 - + Pharmacists play a pivotal role in PA processes :
 - Supports improvements
 - Recommend standardization
 - Request they be included in PA improvement process
 - + Appreciates recommendation to include providers in training and decision-making
 - + Noted concern regarding insurers and Pharmacy Benefit Managers directing patients to mail-order pharmacies

2013 Public Comments > 6

- » Evidence-Based Medicine Findings & Recommendations

Finalize/Approve



» Engage/Support Employers

*All Payer Claims Database comments are consolidated under
Transparency/Health Information Infrastructure Section*

- > Finding E, the bullet regarding State retiree health plan and effect of the non-diminishment clause is inaccurate (pg. 1)
- > Safe working environments is a top priority of the Alaska Nurses Association; would like:
 - + Opportunity to work more closely with employers of nurses
 - + Administration to support ACA as it will make insurance available for nurses who have to retire early due to work-related disability (pg. 4)

2013 Public Comments > 8

» Engage/Support Employers

- > Workers Compensation Reform
 - + Support reasonable reform of Workers Compensation, but use caution when changing fee schedules (pg. 2)
 - + Include incentives for employers to improve work environments as part of Workers Compensation reform (pg. 4)

- > Dispensing Prescribers
 - + Alaska Board of Nursing already has regulations regarding dispensing of medications (pg. 4)
 - + Support inclusion of Pharmacy Board in this recommendation (pg. 5)

2013 Public Comments > 9

» Engage/Support Employers

- > Prescription drug abuse
 - + Prescription drug abuse is a significant issue in Alaska and nationally – combatting the problem should be team effort of the boards (pg. 1, 4, 5)
 - + Other States' controlled substance monitoring programs as examples:
 - Follow New York's example (pg. 1)
 - Washington's program referenced in findings has had some success, but also difficulties (pg. 4)
 - + Prescription Drug Monitoring Program – this is important – strongly support upgrade to real-time (pg. 4, 5)
 - + Specific suggestions:
 - Require standardized prescriptions (pg. 1)
 - Require DEA license holder to place verbal order by phone for controlled substances (pg. 1)
 - + There should be a task force to address this problem (pg. 5)

2013 Public Comments > 10

» Employer Engagement & Support

Finalize/Approve

» Transparency/Health Information Infrastructure

- > Hospital Discharge Database (HDD) findings should note data set is incomplete due to lack of data from other facilities, and All Payer Claims Database (APCD) findings should indicate states have had mixed results so far using data to impact consumerism (pg. 3)
- > APCDs (pg.s 2, 3, 5)
 - + Are expensive and challenging
 - + Demonstrate mixed results in providing the public with price and quality data
 - + Many factors involved – stakeholders should be involved in planning
- > HDD (pgs. 2, 3, 6)
 - + Focus on making HDD successful before starting APCD
 - + Include all health care facilities/Certificate of Need facilities under mandate
 - + Include federal facilities as condition of Medicaid reimbursement
 - + State should manage data system
- > Also look at enterprise solutions for consumer empowerment (pg. 2)
- > Data systems' ability to maintain privacy for behavioral health may be difficult due to small number of providers (pg. 6)

2013 Public Comments > 12

» Transparency/Health Information Infrastructure

Finalize/Approve

» 2014 Commission Agenda

- > The Commission should take a more active role in federal health care reform activities. (pg. 3)
- > Support effort to study fraud and abuse, and suggest a toll-free line for providers to report evidence of patient/provider fraud/abuse. (pg. 6)
- > There are many issues related to Pharmacy Benefit Managers, and the Alaska Pharmacists Association would like to be involved in this discussion. (pg. 6)

» Other Comments

- > Good job (pg. 1)
- > Behavioral health integral to physical health – Commission should maintain vigilance to mental and emotional well-being of Alaskans (pg. 2)
- > The Mat-Su Borough needs a nursing home and more assisted living beds, hospice resources, and home health service capacity (pg. 6)

2013 Public Comments > 14

» 2014 Commission Agenda

Finalize/Approve